

F-2009-01443

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The National Security Archive

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IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE PLEASE REFER
TO ARCHIVE FILE NO. 20090749CIA092

July 21, 2009

APPROVED FOR RELEASE ☐
DATE: 12-May-2010

Delores M. Nelson
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Re: Request under the Freedom of Information Act, in reply refer to Archive # 20090749CIA092

Dear Ms. Nelson:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), I hereby request disclosure of the following:

All documents from 1948-2000 in any medium related in whole or in part but not limited to the biography, professional career, activities and operations of Mexican security official Fernando Gutiérrez Barrios. After graduating from the Heroico Colegio Militar military academy, he joined the Federal Security Directorate (Dirección Federal de Seguridad or DFS) in 1948. He came into the DFS with a group of agents who would control the institution for many years to come and exercise a great deal of authority over the institution. By 1955, Gutiérrez Barrios was Chief of Operations and by 1959 he was Deputy Director of the DFS. When Manuel Rangel Escamilla was deposed, Gustavo Díaz Ordaz appointed Gutiérrez Barrios to the position of Director of the DFS, a position he held from 1964-1970, during the height of the organization's power. In 1970, he was promoted to Deputy Government Secretary, the country's highest intelligence post. In this position, he played a large role in the crackdown on guerrilla organizations such as the Liga Comunista 23 de Septiembre. Under his leadership, the DFS and secret paramilitary organizations worked to eliminate enemies of the regime; hundreds of victims were tortured, murdered, or "disappeared." When Carlos Salinas de Gortari came to the presidency in 1988, he chose Gutiérrez Barrios to be his second-in-command, appointing him Government Secretary. Salinas replaced him in January 1993 because of his resistance to democratic reforms.

If you regard any of these documents as potentially exempt from the FOIA's disclosure requirements, I request that you nonetheless exercise your discretion to disclose them. As the FOIA requires, please release all reasonably segregable non exempt portions of documents. To permit me to reach an intelligent and informed decision whether or not to file an administrative appeal of any denied material, please describe any withheld records (or portions thereof) and explain the basis for your exemption claims.

As a representative of the news media, the National Security Archive qualifies for "representative of the news media" status under 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(a)(4)(A)(ii)(II) and, therefore, may not be charged search and review fees. (See *National Security Archive v. U.S. Department of Defense*, 880 F.2d 1381 (D.C.Cir. 1989), cert denied, 110 S.Ct. 1478 (1990)). This request is made as part of a scholarly and news research project that is intended for publication and is not for commercial use. For details on the Archive's research and extensive publication activities please see our website at www.nsarchive.org.

To expedite the release of the requested documents, please disclose them on an interim basis as they become available to you, without waiting until all the documents have been processed. Please notify me before incurring any photocopying costs over \$100. If you have any questions regarding the identity of the records, their location, the scope of the request or any other matters, please call me at (202) 994-7000 or email me at foiamail@gwu.edu. I look forward to receiving your response within the twenty day statutory time period.

Sincerely,



JUL 24 2009



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FAX COVER SHEET

Date: July 21, 2009

To: Delores M. Nelson – Intelligence and Privacy Coordinator

Organization: Central Intelligence Agency

From: The National Security Archive

Number of pages (including cover sheet) 2

If there is a problem with this transmission, please call us at 202-994-7000 as soon as possible.

Message: FOIA Request Attached
National Security Archive Number 20090749CIA092

Thank you for your efforts in processing this request.